



#12B
S. Sand
7/11/03
PATENT
81674-264193

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

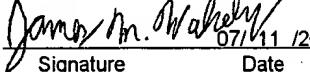
In re Request for Continued Examination)
(RCE) Application of:)
D. M. PUTZOLU et al.)
Serial No: 09/470,163)
Filed: December 22, 1999)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
ALLOWING PROPRIETARY FORWARDING)
ELEMENTS TO INTEROPERATE WITH)
STANDARD CONTROL ELEMENTS IN AN)
OPEN ARCHITECTURE FOR NETWORK)
DEVICES)

Art Unit: 2141
Examiner: Q.N. NGUYEN

I hereby certify that this correspondence is
being deposited with the United States Postal
Service with sufficient postage as first class
mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231, on

July 11, 2003
Date of Deposit

James M. Wakely
Name


James M. Wakely
07/11/2003
Signature Date

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) AND
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

JUL 18 2003

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated February 12, 2003 in connection
with the above-identified application, the time for response being extended two months
to July 12, 2003 by the accompanying Petition and fee, Applicants respectfully submit a
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-referenced application and a
Preliminary Amendment. Please consider the following amendments and remarks prior
to examination of the above-identified continuation application.